

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 371 without my signature.

This bill would require all general acute care hospitals applying for financing from the issuance of tax-exempt bonds to have a “safe patient handling” policy in their Injury and Illness Prevention Plan.

This bill is yet another attempt to impose inflexible patient handling policies upon all acute care hospitals. I have vetoed several bills attempting to impose so-called “zero-lift” policies on hospitals, including a measure this year. As I have said before, hospitals are the best judges of what type of safe patient handling policy is appropriate for their care setting given their resources.

For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger